



... news flashes from the Ethnic Arts Council

JANUARY 2015

UPCOMING EAC PROGRAMS:

Exploring the Art and Collection of Tony Berlant.

February 1, 2015. 3-5pm.

Details forthcoming via EAC Program Announcement. *Limited to 30 only.

Lampung Imagery: Textile Iconography of South Sumatra.

By EAC member and textile expert Thomas Murray.

February 14, 2015. 3-5pm.

Additional event location details forthcoming via EAC Program Announcement. *This event is co-sponsored with the TMA/SC.



The Lampung District in south Sumatra is home to the most celebrated textile tradition of the Indonesian Archipelago. This is an area known at its core for ancient Austronesian megaliths, Bronze Age decorative influences, and the great cultural impulse of the Buddhist/Hindu state of Srivijaya. A millennium ago, there also washed upon its shores a cosmopolitan world of ideas and trade goods from China, India, Arabia, and Europe in exchange for prized Lampung pepper. From this we witness a cultural and aesthetic hybridization at its most fertile, both esoteric and compellingly beautiful, but not widely understood.

This lecture will shed some light on this topic through an examination of the ritual cloth of the area. It will review all of the major weaving and dyeing artistic expressions, including the famed supplementary weft *palepai* and *tampai* ship cloths; initiation sarongs, with their richly embroidered boat and ancestor



iconography; *tapis*; *lampit* mats patterned by burning; and the mysterious weft *ikat bidak* ritual cloths, with their small bird and deer motifs. The speaker will present original research, demonstrating some very early dating of certain special cloths and insights gained from radiocarbon testing. Lampung textiles will be contextualized as part of a greater Southeast Asian textile heritage, including comparative woven structures and iconography from the mainland, Borneo, and some of the outer islands of Indonesia.

Thomas Murray is a private dealer of Asian and tribal art with an emphasis on Indonesian sculpture and textiles and Indian printed trade cloths from the 13th–18th centuries. A contributing editor to *Hali* for more than 20 years, he serves as its in-house expert on ethnographic textiles, and has been featured in more than 45 publications. Murray is past president of the Antique Tribal Art Dealers Association (ATADA), and more recently became a member of President Obama's Cultural Property Advisory Committee.

UPCOMING ART EXHIBITIONS:

Los Angeles Jewelry – Antique – Design Show. **(Part of the LA Art Show. Tickets allow for entry to both shows).**

Preview Opening: January 14, 2015. 8pm to 11pm.
Regular Hours: January 15 to 18, 2015. 11am to 7pm (Sunday until 5pm).
Los Angeles Convention Center, South Hall H.

Featuring over 40 international exhibitors, including a Tribal and American Indian Art section, a Modernism section, and a unique Thangka Art exhibition. EAC members and tribal art dealers Kim Martindale, Philip Garaway, and Mark Johnson will exhibit at this venue.

www.LAWinterShow.com

29th Annual San Francisco Tribal & Textile Arts Show 2015

Preview Opening: February 5th, 2015. 6pm to 9pm.
Regular Hours: February 6th – 8th, 2015. 11am to 7pm (Sunday until 5pm).
Fort Mason Center, Festival Pavilion. San Francisco.

80 international dealers exhibiting textiles, tribal arts, exceptional artifacts, objects & art, displayed for sale in a museum like setting. EAC members and tribal art dealers Ron Dammann, Michael Hamson, Thomas Murray, Joshua Dimondstein, Fily Keita, Leonard Kalina, Ernie Wolfe, and Mark Johnson will exhibit at this venue.



Special exhibition: Heart of the Brush II: The Installation. Featuring the brush paintings of artist, architect, and antiques dealer Vichai Chinalai.

Tours: February 6th & 7th, 9am. “The Delight of Looking Closer”, by Cathryn Cootner, emeritus curator of textiles FAMSF, collector, author, lecturer and tribal art dealer. \$40 per person (includes show admission), space limited, by reservation only: (310) 305-4543 or info@caskeylees.com.

www.sanfranciscotribalandtextileartsshow.com.

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS:

Grandes Maestros: Great Masters of Iberoamerican Folk Art. From the collection of Fomento Cultural Banamex.

**November 9, 2014 through September 13, 2015.
Natural History Museum, Los Angeles.**

A showcase of more than 1,200 works: colorful masks, intricate textiles, hand-carved miniature sculptures, yarn paintings, clay animals, religious and political altarpieces — associated with daily use or ritual purpose, and immersed in the traditions and identity of Iberoamérica.

<http://www.nhm.org/site/explore-exhibits/special-exhibits/grandes-maestros>

How to Make the Universe Right: Ceremonial Objects from the Yao People of Vietnam and Southern China.

**January 17, 2015 through May 1, 2015.
AD&A Museum, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara.**

How to Make the Universe Right presents an unprecedented group of scrolls and ceremonial objects of the Yao people and other groups from Vietnam and Southern China. This rich tradition of Shamanist practice brings together Daoist and Buddhist deities, Confucian ancestor worship, and Animism.

These scroll paintings, costumes, masks, instruments and the other ceremonial objects represent an unbroken link to the past of Asian mountain cultures whose roots go back 2000 years. Scrolls vary in number from sets of three to complete sets of seventeen or more depending on the shaman's stature and the intended purpose of the work. The complete Daoist pantheon is usually represented, including the Three Pure Ones, the Jade Emperor, and Master of Saints. The spiritual stories represented in the scroll paintings also include celestial beings such



as the Three Merciful Ones, the Four Heavenly Messengers, and the Ten Kings of Hell, and divine animals such as tigers, dragons, lion-dogs, and others.

With the help of scrolls and other spiritual objects, such as the ones exhibited in this show, the shamans guide their people's vital spiritual life binding them together and helping them "make the universe right."

<http://www.museum.ucsb.edu/news/feature/311>

EAC STUDY GROUPS:

Individual EAC members are forming study groups to focus on the traditional arts of specific regions. The concept is to create an intimate and relaxed environment for the discussion of art objects including their use, authenticity, and relative quality.

For more information on joining or developing new study groups, please contact these individuals:

Tribal Asia Study Group:

Mark Johnson at: majtribal@gmail.com.

African Art Seminars:

Richard Baum at: rnbaum@hotmail.com.

Native American Study Group:

Philip Garaway at: philipgaraway@earthlink.net or call (310) 577-8555.

**Philip is planning an event at his gallery in the Venice Canals early next year. Any EAC members or their guests interested in attending this inaugural meeting, please contact Philip directly for details.*

2014 EAC DONORS:

Silent Auction - Boutique - General Fund:

Ron and Connie Fishbach - Eric and Corrine Ross - Will Hughes - Monte Gordon - Joshua Dimondstein Tribal Arts - Liz Lees - Thomas Murray Asiatica/Ethnographica - Audrey Stein - Lesley Ann Martin (Pacific Artefacts) - Greg and Meches Grinnell - Leslie Sacks Fine Art - Philip Garaway - Jose Terez - Harry Steinberg - Mark Clayton - Mr. and Mrs. Robert Arthur - Leonard Kalina Fine Arts - Berbere World Imports -



Ron Dammann (Stendahl Galleries) - David Hayen - Alan Grinnell & Feelie Lee - Suzi Click Fashion Design - John Ross - Richard & Jan Baum - David Miller - Helen Hasenfeld - Claire Steinberg - Pete Steinberg - Ron Normandeau (Anthropos Gallery) - Mark A. Johnson Tribal Art - Stephanie Sills - Kim Fisher - Jeannine Frank - Andrea Kchaven - Caskey Lees - Yochim Art - Gene Polgar - MeraLee Goldman - Fowler Museum at UCLA – LACMA - Chaya Restaurant - Border Grill Restaurant - John O’Groats Restaurant - Food Restaurant - The Tavern Restaurant - Bel Aire Bar & Grill Restaurant - Casa Nostra Restaurant - Demetria Estate’s Winery - Kings Meat - The Oaks Spa and Blue Iguana Bed and Breakfast - Stolpman Winery - LA Opera.

Virginia Fields Scholarship Fund:

Mark and Maureen Miller Family Foundation - Haim and Paula Shtrum - Richard and Jan Baum - Allen and Polly Roberts - Eric Ross and Corine Couwenberg - Bruce and Elaine Bannatyne - Roger and Tony Johnston - Tamara Hoffman - Will and Celeste Hughes - Bicara LTD - Suzanne Labiner - Arvey Foundation - Kaija Keel - Harry and Claire Steinberg - Marla Berns - Bob Weekley - Alan Grinnell and Feelie Lee - Stuart Ashman and Peggy Gaustad - David Blair - David Miller - Gene Polgar and Andrea Stonefield - Diana Magaloni - Greg and Meches Grinnell.



Endnotes:

EAC e-news • Published: January 2015

Contact: Mark Johnson, Editor at majtribal@gmail.com

The Ethnic Arts Council of Los Angeles (EAC)

• Dedicated to Advancing the Knowledge, Interest, and Appreciation of Ethnic Art •

Become a member! Contact: Tamara Hoffman:
tamara.hoffman222@gmail.com

